AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A table pad coupling system, comprising:

~~The system of claim 2, wherein said plurality of table pads further includes~~

a plurality of table pads, including:

a first table pad having:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface; and

a plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a first magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a second magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said first and second magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said surface of said first magnet and said surface of said second magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces;

a second table pad having a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface of said first table pad disposed adjacent said first peripheral surface of said second table pad, said second table pad additionally includes a plurality of ferrous members positioned within said second table pad, said plurality of ferrous members including a first ferrous member and a second ferrous member, said first ferrous member proximate said first peripheral surface of said second table pad and said second ferrous member proximate said second peripheral surface of said second table pad; and

a third table pad having:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface; and

an other plurality of magnets positioned within said third table pad, said other plurality of magnets including a third magnet associated with said first peripheral surface of said third table pad and a fourth magnet associated with said second peripheral surface of said third table pad, said third and fourth magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said magnetic polarity of said surfaces of said third magnet and said fourth magnet being opposite that of said surface of said first magnet and said second magnet, said surface of said third magnet and said surface of said fourth magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces of said third table pad, said first peripheral surface of said third table pad disposed proximate one of said second peripheral surface of said first table pad and said second peripheral surface of said second table pad.

4-6 (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A table pad coupling system, comprising: ~~The system of claim 1, wherein~~

a plurality of table pads, including:

a first table pad having:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface; and

a plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a first magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a second magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said first and second magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said surface of said first magnet and said surface of said second magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces; and

a second table pad having a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface of said first table pad disposed adjacent said first peripheral surface of said second table pad, said second table pad ~~includes~~ additionally including an other plurality of magnets positioned within said second table pad, said other plurality of magnets including a third magnet associated with said first peripheral surface of said second table pad and a fourth magnet associated with said second peripheral surface of said second table pad, said third and fourth magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said magnetic polarity of said surfaces of said third magnet and said fourth magnet being opposite that of said surface of said first magnet and said second magnet, said surface of said third magnet and said surface of said fourth magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces of said second table pad.

8. (original) The system of claim 7, wherein said plurality of table pads include a first plurality of table pads substantially similar to said first table pad and a second plurality of table pads substantially similar to said second table pad, said plurality of table pads being arranged on a table top such that each table pad from said first plurality of table pads is only adjacent to table pads from said second plurality of table pads.

9. (currently amended) A table pad coupling system, comprising:

~~The system of claim 1, wherein said first table pad further comprises~~

a plurality of table pads, including:

a first table pad having:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface;

a plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a first magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a second magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said first and second magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said surface of said first magnet and said surface of said second magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces; and an other plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a third magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a fourth magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said third and fourth magnets having a surface of a magnetic polarity opposite said same magnetic polarity, said surface of said third magnet and said surface of said fourth magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces; and

a second table pad having a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface of said first table pad disposed adjacent said first peripheral surface of said second table pad.

10. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein said second table pad is substantially similar to said first table pad, said first magnet of said first table pad aligned to be magnetically coupled to said third magnet of said second table pad.

11. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein said third magnet of said first table pad is aligned to be magnetically coupled to said first magnet of said second table pad.

12-14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A method of arranging a series of table pads, comprising the steps of:

~~The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of~~

positioning a first table pad on a table, said first table pad including:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface; and

a plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a first magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a second magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said first and second magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said surface of said first magnet and said surface of said second magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces;

arranging a second table pad adjacent to said first table pad, said second table pad including a plurality of peripheral surfaces having a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface of said first table pad disposed adjacent said first peripheral surface of said second table pad, said second table pad additionally including a plurality of ferrous members positioned within said second table pad, said plurality of ferrous members including a first ferrous member and a second ferrous member, said first ferrous member proximate said first peripheral surface of said second table pad and said second ferrous member proximate said second peripheral surface of said second table pad; and

arranging a third table pad, said third table pad having:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface;

and

an other plurality of magnets positioned within said third table pad, said other plurality of magnets including a third magnet associated with said first peripheral surface of said third table pad and a fourth magnet associated with said second peripheral surface of said third table pad, said third and fourth magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said magnetic polarity of said surfaces of said third magnet and said fourth magnet being opposite that of said surface of said first magnet and said second magnet, said surface of said third magnet and said surface of said fourth magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces of said third table pad, said first peripheral surface of said third table pad disposed proximate one of said second peripheral surface of said first table pad and said second peripheral surface of said second table pad.

16-18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) A method of arranging a series of table pads, comprising the steps of:

~~The method of claim 13, wherein~~

positioning a first table pad on a table, said first table pad including:

a plurality of peripheral surfaces including a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface; and

a plurality of magnets positioned within said first table pad, said plurality of magnets including a first magnet associated with said first peripheral surface and a second magnet associated with said second peripheral surface, said first and second magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said surface of said first magnet and said surface of said second magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces; and

arranging a second table pad adjacent to said first table pad, said second table pad including a plurality of peripheral surfaces having a first peripheral surface and a second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface opposite said second peripheral surface, said first peripheral surface of said first table pad disposed adjacent said first peripheral surface of said second table pad, said second table pad ~~includes~~ including an other plurality of magnets positioned within said second table pad, said other plurality of magnets including a third magnet associated with said first peripheral surface of said second table pad and a fourth magnet associated with said second peripheral surface of said second table pad, said third and fourth magnets having a surface of a same magnetic polarity, said magnetic polarity of said surfaces of said third magnet and said fourth magnet being opposite that of said surface of said first magnet and said second magnet, said surface of said third magnet and said surface of said fourth magnet outwardly oriented proximate said respective first and second peripheral surfaces of said second table pad.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of sequentially arranging a plurality of table pads including a first plurality of table pads substantially similar to said first table pad and a second plurality of table pads substantially similar to said second table

pad, said plurality of table pads being arranged on a table top such that each table pad from said first plurality of table pads is only adjacent to table pads from said second plurality of table pads.